

1 VSM

Community Development Commission

April 4, 2003

To: Each Supervisor

From:  Carlos Jackson, Executive Director

SUBJECT: TVSM ACTIVITY OVERVIEW FOR PERIOD FY 2000-2003

In April 1997, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) entered into a contractual agreement to develop the Traffic Violator School Monitoring (TVSM) Program for the County of Los Angeles. The previous contract was held with the California Traffic and Safety Institute (CTSI), and was terminated by your Board in April 1996 because of CTSI's financial instability. Your Board requested that the Chief Administrative Office solicit a department within the County to administer the TVSM Program. HACoLA was the designated department to administer the Program. The key factor in HACoLA's consideration was to address the training of Housing Authority public housing residents and Section 8 participants.

In 2002, the Traffic Violator School Monitoring Program of the Community Development Commission celebrated its fifth anniversary in serving the Los Angeles County Superior Courts, traffic violator schools, and the general public. TVSM currently serves 31 court locations within Los Angeles County and monitors 792 traffic school locations (Exhibit 1). Since its inception, the TVSM Program has successfully monitored traffic violator schools and is very proud of its results and impact in improving the traffic school industry in the County of Los Angeles.

The following are some brief highlights displaying the success of the TVSM Program:

- The number of traffic violator schools holding classes has increased. In a comparison analysis for FY 2000-01 vs. 2001-02, the variance of monitored traffic schools was 222, which represents a 37.75% increase. There were 563 traffic schools monitored from July 2002 to February 2003; a 16.08% increase over the same period for the previous year. We anticipate that our classroom monitorings for FY 2002-2003 will exceed previous fiscal years (see Exhibit 2).

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- During FY 2001-2002, 40 business audits were conducted. TVSM has audited 49 schools from July 2002 to February 2003. TVSM is projected to audit 85 schools for FY 2002-2003, which exceeds last year's results by 112.5% (see Exhibit 3).
- A total of 174,441 students attended traffic violator school during FY 2000-01, and 229,597 during FY 2001-2002. This figure represents a 31.62% increase over the previous year. Currently, 106,465 students have attended traffic school since July 2002 (see Exhibit 4).
- The number of scheduled classes entered in our TVSM Database during FY 2000-01 was 34,788, and 35,238 during FY 2001-02. This current year, 26,197 class schedules have been received in our office. Based on this information, we anticipate a higher volume of schedules will be processed for FY 2002-03 (see Exhibit 5).
- TVSM has conducted several investigations of traffic violator schools since its inception in 1997. As a result, the operation of traffic violator schools has shifted tremendously to compliance with the Vehicle Code and state regulations. In June 2000, TVSM personnel were instrumental in recommending that a traffic violator school license be revoked from the Star Driving and Traffic School for the premature signing and selling of completion certificates. Consequently, the DMV revoked the license of the traffic violator school. Recently, TVSM assisted the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, and the DMV in the conviction of a traffic violator school owner for the sale of completion certificates. Larry Ly, the owner of the Long Way Traffic School, was convicted on one count of bribery and one count of perjury in November 2002. As a result of the evidence that the TVSM provided in this case, Mr. Ly received a sentence of: 1) five years formal probation; 2) ninety days jail time; 3) \$10,000 fine; and 4) banned from further involvement within the traffic violator school industry. In addition, TVSM currently has several schools under investigation and is developing concrete evidence to recommend those traffic violator schools for license revocation.
- In late 2001, the Superior Court requested that TVSM begin preliminary reviews of the Home Study and Internet traffic violator school programs. Pending final approval of the Court, the TVSM Program will include full monitoring of the Home Study and Internet traffic violator schools.

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- A new unit within TVSM has been created to conduct studies and prepare reports with findings and recommendations for the further refinement of TVSM operations. The goal of this unit is to track the progress of the traffic violator school industry and the effects of the monitoring by TVSM. This unit is currently working on a certification program for the traffic violator schools that we anticipate will promote excellence. This unit will also prepare quarterly updates on progress and new developments of the Program for review.

The TVSM Program has proven to be very successful in its operation throughout these years. Our goal is to continue with our mission to provide professional, efficient and impartial services to the Court, consumers, and traffic violator schools of Los Angeles County, by offering technical expertise, versatility, superior customer service and monitoring integrity.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Bobbette A. Glover, Assistant Executive Director, at (323) 890-7402.

CJ:BG:FM
Enclosures

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Zoe Venhuizen, Deputy Executive Officer
David Sotelo, Site Supervising Judge



March 21, 2003

Exhibit 2

Monitoring Comparison for FY July 2000 - June 2003

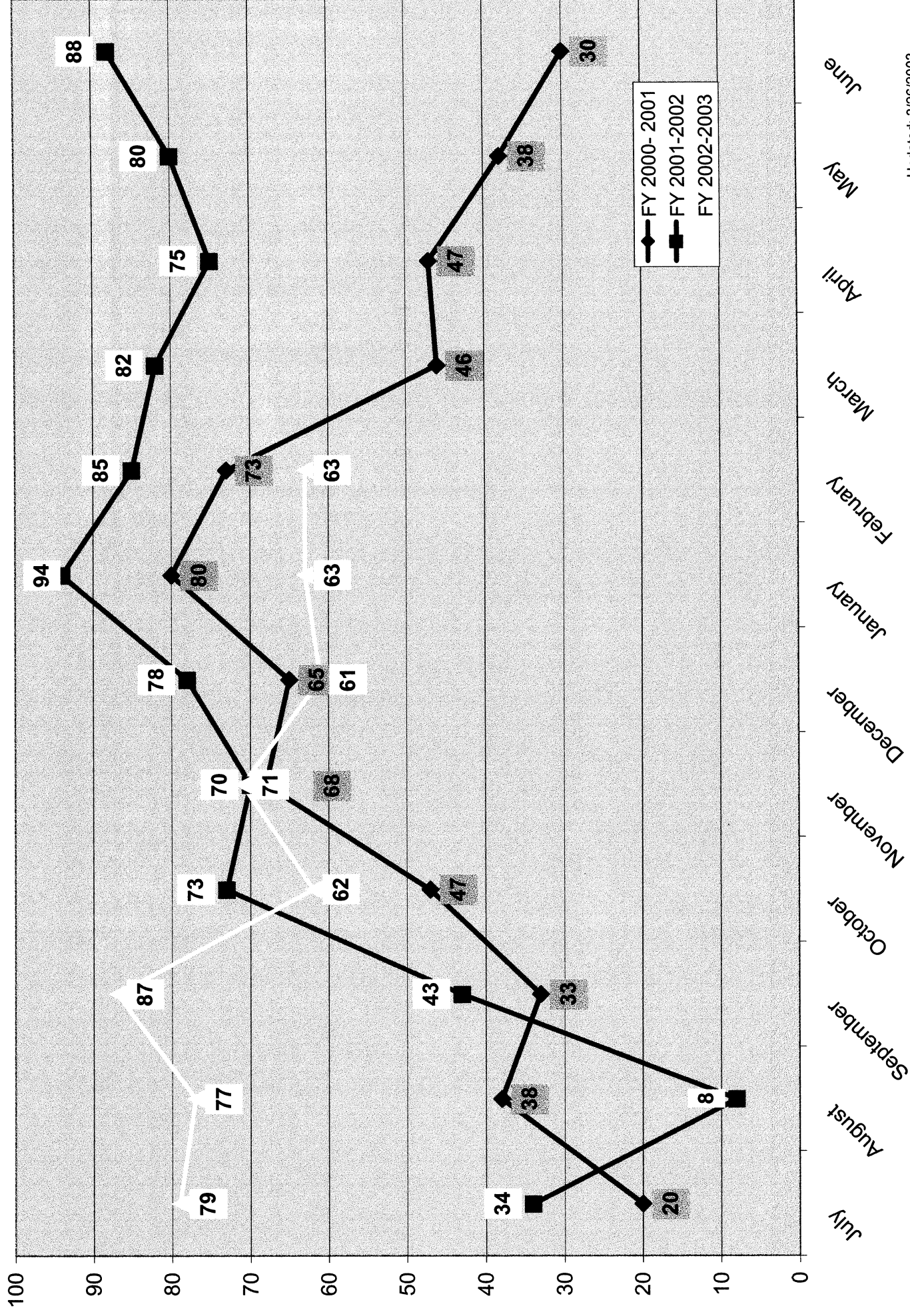


Exhibit 3

Traffic School Audit Report for FY 2001-2002 & 2002-2003

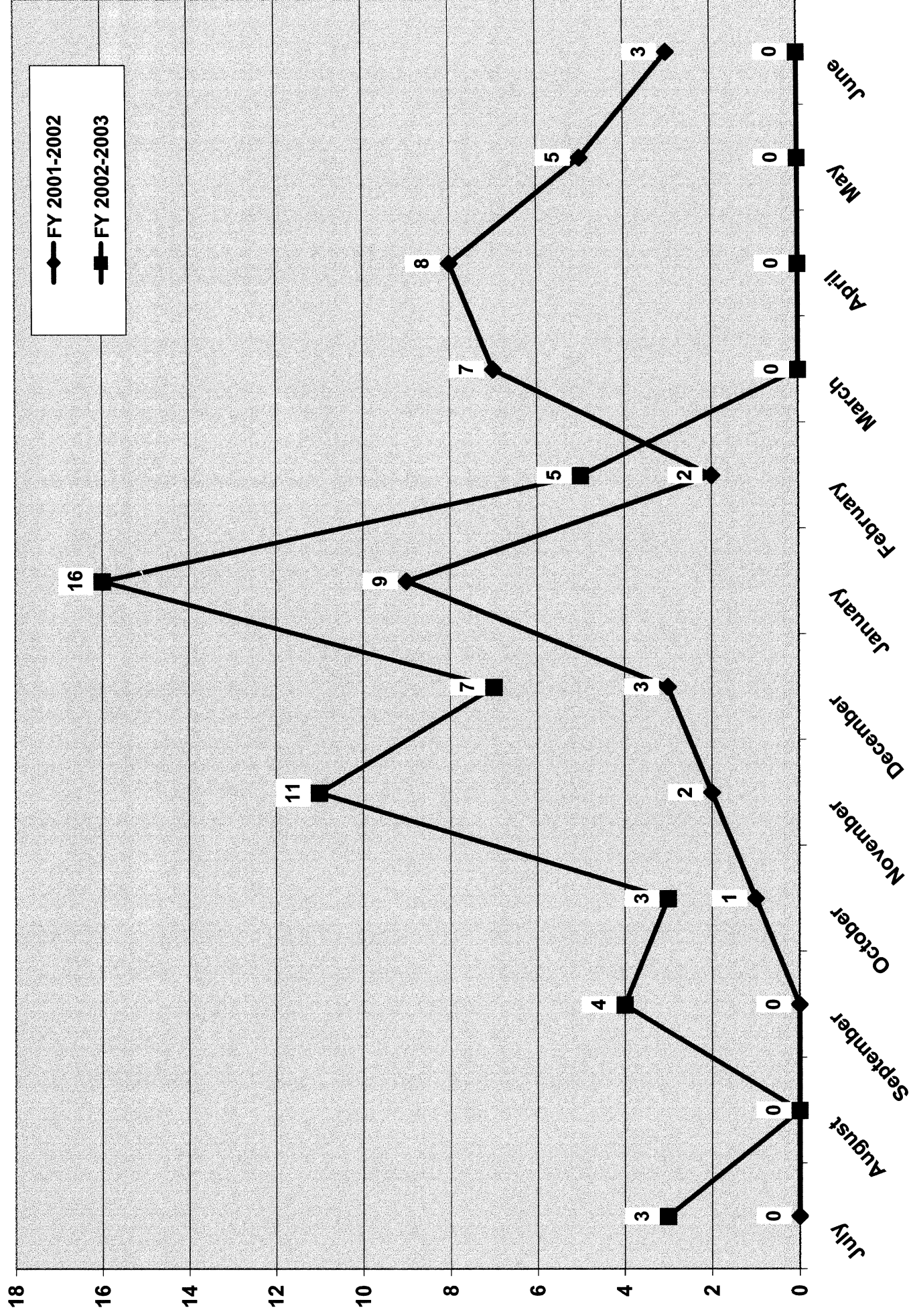
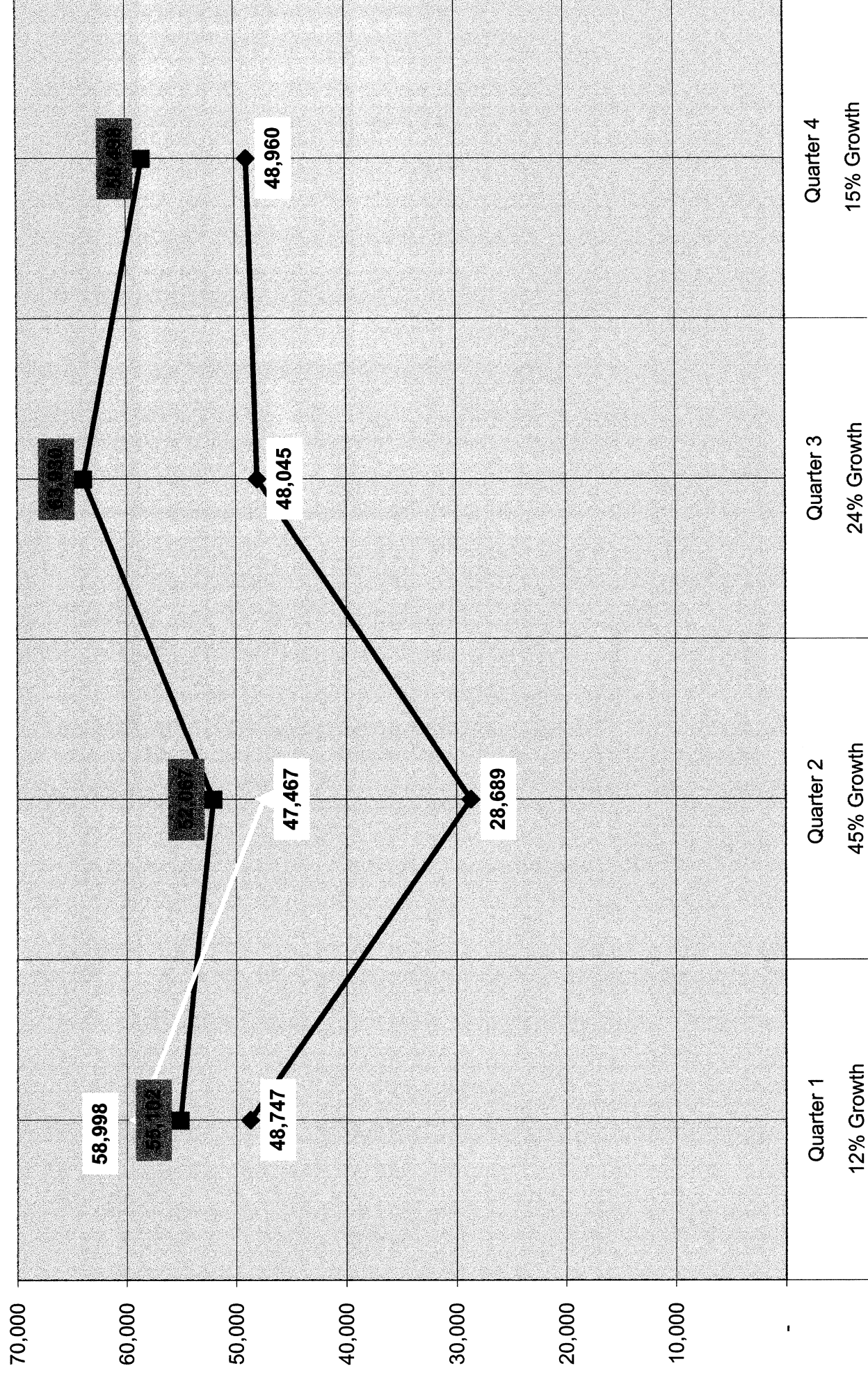


Exhibit 4

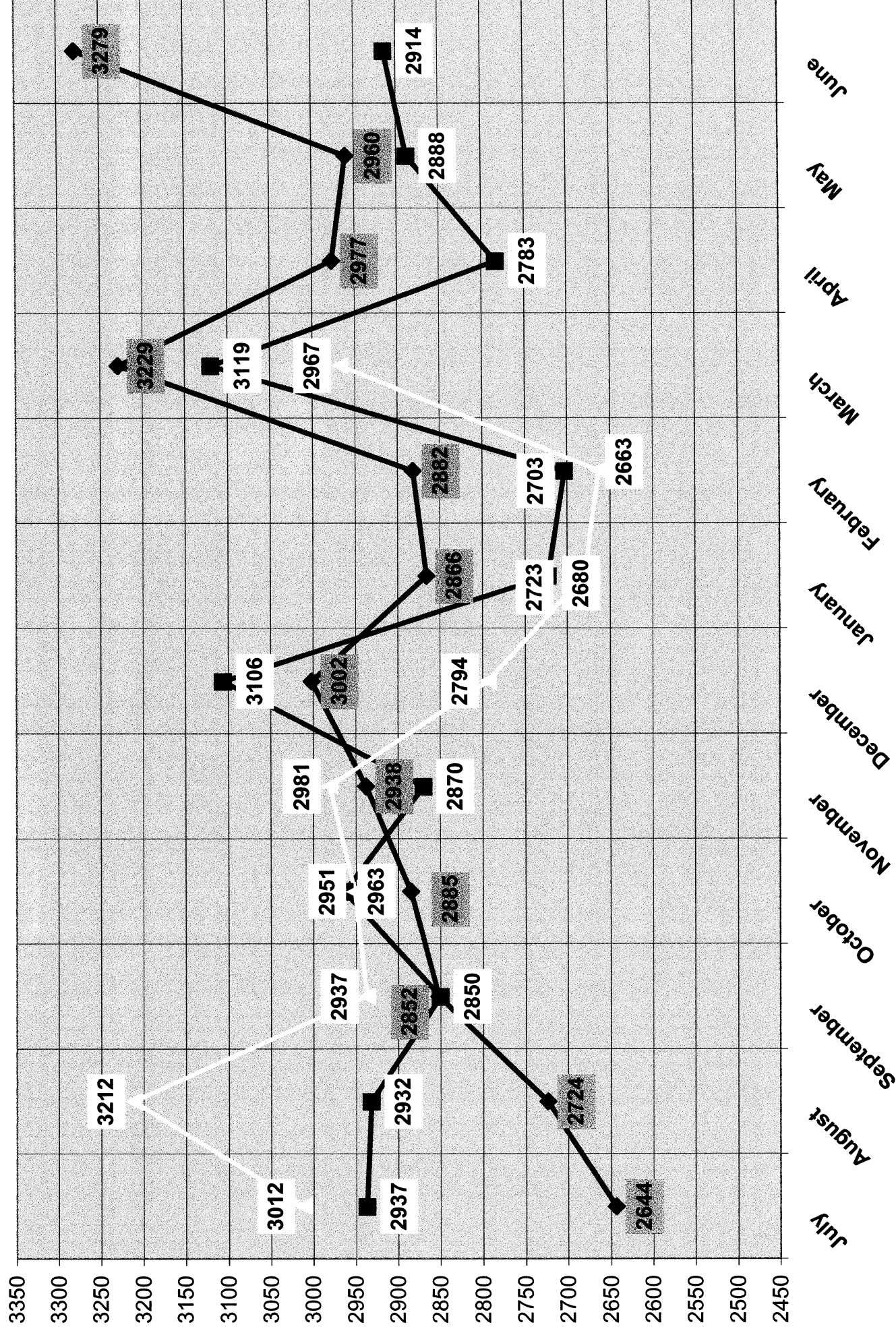
Traffic School Students Quarterly Comparison Report for
July 2000 - June 2003



—◆— 2000 - 2001 —■— 2001 - 2002 2002 - 2003

Exhibit 5

Scheduled Classes Comparison from FY July 2000 - June 2003



FY 2000-2001

 FY 2001-2002

 FY 2002-2003